

acres in Nevada and 19,000 acres in Oregon. The Nevada Native Nations Land Act would add 19,094 acres now managed by the BLM in Nevada to the lands already held in trust for the tribe.

The Duck Valley Indian Reservation is the home of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes who live along the State line between Nevada and Idaho. The reservation is 289,819 acres, including 22,231 acres of wetlands. The tribes have limited economic opportunities and tribal members have made their way farming and ranching. This bill would place 82 acres of U.S. Forest Service land into trust for the tribes. The tribes plan to rehabilitate structures that were used by Forest Service employees into much-needed housing on the parcel.

The Summit Lake Reservation is one of the most rural and remote reservations in Nevada along the Oregon and California borders. Established in 1913 for the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, the reservation today is 12,573 acres. The tribe seeks land to maintain the integrity of its reservation, protect Summit Lake and restore the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout. S. 2480 would transfer 941 acres of BLM-managed land into trust for the tribe.

The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony has a very small 28-acre reservation in Reno, NV. The colony has 1,100 Paiute, Shoshone and Washoe members some of whom live on a 1,920 acre reservation in Hungry Valley, which is 19 miles north of Reno. The Hungry Valley Reservation is surrounded by shooting and ATV activities and tribal members have requested a buffer zone to ensure the safety of their community. The legislation would transfer 13,434 acres of BLM land into trust for the tribe.

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe have made their homelands around Pyramid Lake, a unique desert terminal lake. Pyramid Lake is one of the most valuable assets of the tribe and is entirely enclosed within the boundaries of the reservation. S. 2480 would expand the reservation with an additional 30,669 acres of BLM-managed land.

This legislation is so important to me and the Indian tribes in Nevada. Throughout the history of our country, Native Americans have been removed and disenfranchised from their homelands. They have been treated so poorly. One of the first pieces of legislation I worked on when I came to Congress was the historic Pyramid Lake/Truckee-Carson Water Rights Settlement. This involved two States, several cities, a lake, a river, endangered species, and two Indian tribes. These Indian water rights needed to be protected, just as tribal lands need to be restored especially in Nevada where tribal landbases are smaller and more rural and remote than any other parts of Indian Country. During my time in the Senate, I will continue to do what I can to right some of the many wrongs and help tribes restore their homelands.

REMEMBERING HOWARD BAKER AND ALAN DIXON

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the Nation recently lost two distinguished former members of this body. I join those who mourn former Senate majority leader Howard Baker of Tennessee, and former Senator Alan Dixon of Illinois. And I am reminded by their passing of the passing of an era they helped forge, one in which elected officials of strong opinions but good will sought to accommodate the diverse viewpoints of this great Nation, rather than using them to divide our people and obstruct the operations of government.

Howard Baker became known as “the Great Conciliator.” I am one of the few members of the current Senate who served alongside him. We came from different places, and from different political traditions. We saw the world differently. But I knew him, as all who worked with him knew him, as someone who would fight for his positions but also work to understand the positions of others.

He described himself as a moderate at a time when that word wasn’t out of fashion. And that moderation and sense of fairness are what guided him as he helped guide the Nation through one of the most searing experiences in our history, the Watergate scandal. As the ranking Republican on the Senate committee investigating the scandal, he was a calm, collected, comforting presence at a time of great tumult. By placing the good of the Nation and the need to protect our democracy ahead of his own party’s interests, he provided a powerful example for us to follow, just as he did in helping to build bipartisan support for important civil rights and environmental legislation.

Alan Dixon, too, was shaped by, and helped to shape, a different era in politics. In his memoir, Senator Dixon wrote: “Generally speaking, my political career was built on goodwill and accommodation.” Too few political figures can make such a claim today. As an elected official in Illinois, as a Senator, and as a valued member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator Dixon gained a reputation for fairness, balance and understanding. I remember this well-earned reputation made him a great help to Senator Sam Nunn, the Democratic leader on the Armed Services Committee, during debate on the annual Defense Authorization Act. It is also why he was chosen for the difficult and important responsibility of leading the base closure commission.

Senator Dixon showed that a fairness and accommodation need not contradict fighting strongly for your beliefs. He often told the story of how during committee debate on a defense bill during the 1980s the committee was poised to sign off on buying a new anti-aircraft system. Dixon had read that system had serious problems, and though he was then relatively junior on the committee, he objected to its inclusion in the defense bill. The power-

ful chairman at the time, Senator Goldwater, told Dixon that if he thought there was a problem, he should go down to Fort Bliss, TX, that weekend, check it out, and report back to the committee. Dixon did, and when he asked, somewhat to the chagrin of his military tour guides, for a demonstration of the system, it fired at 88 targets and missed 87. When he reported back to the committee on his findings, it quickly decided to cancel the program, a decision even the Pentagon had to support.

Now, some might see that story as an illustration of the need to challenge authority, an argument against going along to getting along—And it is—But it is important to note that Alan Dixon didn’t try to demonize his opponents, didn’t portray them as enemies. He honestly disagreed, raised his objections, pursued the facts, laid them before his colleagues, and trusted in their good judgment.

Our Nation is no less diverse than it was when Howard Baker and Alan Dixon practiced the principled politics of accommodation. Our challenges are no smaller. The need to bridge gaps rather than widen them is just as urgent for us as it was for them. We can, and I hope we will, learn from their examples as we confront the challenges we face and the needs of the Nation we serve.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

ARMY SERGEANT JAMES E. DUTTON

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, it is my honor to remember Army SGT James E. Dutton. James died March 31, 2012 in Logar province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

James was born December 25, 1986 in Weleetka, OK. He graduated from Weleetka High School in 2006 and later moved with his parents to Checotah, OK where he served as a firefighter for the Lotawatah Rural Fire Department and worked for Winkle’s Hardware until joining the Army.

After completing basic combat training at Fort Jackson, SC, James was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, NY where he worked as a firefighter and mechanic. In 2008, James had a son, William Tyler Anderson and in 2009, shortly after the birth of his son, he was deployed to Afghanistan.

He returned to Fort Drum in 2010 and in October of 2011 he was reassigned to the 125th Brigade Support Battalion, 3d Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, based at Fort Bliss, TX. He deployed for his second tour to Afghanistan in December 2011.

James loved the U.S. Army and planned on a long career serving his country. He believed in and loved what he was doing and that is where he wanted to be.

On April 23, 2012, the family held a funeral service at First Baptist Church in Checotah, OK and James was laid to rest in Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Fort Gibson, OK.